**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**



**Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

It was easy to overlook 97 Orchard Street. The building was but one of the thousands of tenements that sprouted up on the Lower East Side of NYC during the nineteenth century. However, for Lukas Glockner, 97 Orchard Street wasn't just another tenement – it was his ticket to prosperity. When the German immigrant opened his tenement in 1863, he was hoping to turn a profit by providing cheap homes to the immigrants who were flooding into Manhattan. The tenement fulfilled Glockner's dreams: people filled the building and swelled his pocketbook. Indeed, between 1863 and 1935, 7000 tenants lived in 97 Orchard Street.

The lives of some of these residents are preserved and on display at the Lower East Side Tenement Museum in downtown Manhattan. The Virtual Tour of the museum can be found at…

http://www.tenement.org/Virtual-Tour/index\_virtual.html.



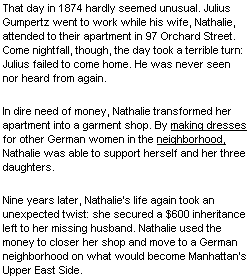
Like other early tenements, 97 Orchard Street was a sparsely appointed building. It lacked gas for light and heat, indoor toilets and running water (see back page). But, in 1867, New York City began passing legislation to improve conditions in tenements. The ensuing wave of housing laws prompted the landlord of 97 Orchard Street to install gas lines, running water and interior flush toilets. Housing laws also called for increased air and light in the apartments. Landlords resisted this provision, but eventually complied by cutting windows in the walls that connected rooms in the apartments.

1. Why do you think landowners resisted “improving the tenements”?
2. What positive effect do you think “improving the tenements” had for residents?
3. What negative effect do you think “improving the tenements” had for residents?
4. Why do you think the government intervened with these housing codes?

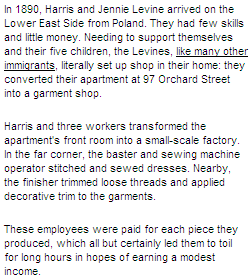


More info at:

Tenement.org/Virtual-Tour/vt\_gumpstory.html

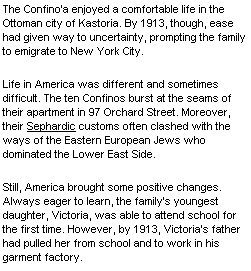


1. Economically, how are the Gumpertz’s doing? What evidence from the apartment makes you say that?
2. What do you think happened to Julius Gumpertz?
3. Who lived in the apartment with Nathalie?
4. What nationality was the Gumpertz family?
5. What did Nathalie do to support her family?
6. What was the “backroom” used for? What is the impression you get from “standing inside of it”? What do you think its original use was before the Gumpertz family moved in?



1. Economically, how are Levine’s doing? What evidence from the apartment makes you say that?
2. What advantages do you think that working at home offered immigrants?
3. Where (or who) do you think they got business?
4. For garment workers, the legal limits you could work was 10 hours a day, six days a week. How would people like Levine get their workers to illegally go over that time?
5. The shop brought in $80.00 a week but resulted in only $16.00 of profit. To increase productivity, how do you think Levine paid his workers?
6. Eventually, the Levine’s moved to Brooklyn in 1904 taking the shop with them. What sacrifices were made in order to make that move possible? More info at:
7. Name at least two differences between the Levine Apartment and the Tenement.org/Virtual-Tour/vt\_levstory.html

Gumpertz Apartment from 15 years before.



1. Economically, how are the Confino’s doing? What evidence from the apartment makes you say that?
2. What do you think the “uncertainty” was that “pushed” them to come to America in 1913?
3. How many people, in total, lived in the apartment?
4. Look around the three rooms of the apartment – where do you think everyone slept? Why do you think Victoria had to leave school to work in the family business?
5. Name at least two differences between the Confino Apartment and the Levine Apartment from 15 years before.
6. Name at least two differences between the Confino Apartment and the More info at:

Gumpertz Apartment from 30 years before. Tenement.org/Virtual-Tour/vt-constory.html

**The Life of a Sweatshop Girl (1902) –** from *The American Spirit* (pages 86-90)

1. What are the greatest differences between Sadie’s life in Poland and her life in the United States?
2. What are the best parts of her job, according to her, in the garment factory?
3. What are the worst parts of her job, according to her, in the garment factory?
4. What is her attitude toward her job? Explain why she feels that way.
5. What is her attitude toward her labor union? Explain why she feels that way.
6. Name one thing that surprised you about the reading. Why did it surprise you?